Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

EB-07 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 MC-01 SS-15 NSC-05

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EATR, ETRD, CH, US

SUBJECT: USLO CHIEF MAKES INTRODUCTORY CALL ON CAAC DIRECTOR MA JEN-HUI

1. ON DECEMBER 3 MR. BUSH, ACCOMPANIED BY USLO OFFICER HOROWITZ, MADE INTRODUCTORY CALL ON MA JEN-HUI, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION OF CHINA (CAAC). ALSO PRESENT WAS LIU MING, DEPUTY DIRECTOR CAAC INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DIVISION. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEETING, WHICH WAS MOST CORDIAL, WERE AS FOLLOWS.

2. IN DISCUSSION ABOUT US COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT INITIATED
BY MR. BUSH, MA DISPLAYED GREAT INTEREST AND KNOWLEDGE OF THE VARIOUS
TYPES OF PLANES MANUFACTURED IN THE US. WHILE NOT SPECIFIC, HE
CONVEYED THE IMPRESSION THAT CAAC IS INTERESTED IN ACQUIRING
MORE AMERICAN MADE PLANES. HE SHOWED NO INTEREST IN SMALL PLANES
OF THE FEEDER LINE TYPE; HIS GREATEST INTEREST WAS IN LARGE
WIDE BODIED TYPES AND HE SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED THE
BOEING 747SP. (COMMENT: THE CHINESE HAVE BEEN INTERESTED
FOR SOME TIME IN THE 747SP, WHICH HAS A SHORTER BODY AND
A LONGER RANGE CAPABILITY THAN THE 747, BUT AS FAR AS WE KNOW
DISCUSSIONS WITH BOEING ON THIS AIRCRAFT HAVE NEVER REACHED A
SERIOUS STAGE.)

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3. MA ALSO COMPLAINED ABOUT FREQUENT REPAIR PROBLEMS WITH THE

INS SYSTEMS WHICH THE CHINESE BOUGHT FOR FOUR OF THEIR 10 BOEING 707S. AT ANOTHER POINT IN THE CONVERSATION, HOWEVER, HE SAID CAAC IS INTERESTED IN BUYING MORE OF THESE INS SYSTEMS FOR THE US. (COMMENT: A REP FROM LITTON, MANUFACTURER OF THESE INS SYSTEMS, HAS BEEN IN PEKING FOR SEVERAL MONTHS IN REGARD TO CERTAIN SERVICING OF THE UNITS. HE HAS NOT TOLD US OF ANY CHINESE DISSATISFACTION WITH THE PRODUCT, BUT HAS RATHER BEEN IMPRESSED BY THE DEGREE OF CHINESE INTEREST IN THE UNITS, WHICH DUE TO EXPORT CONTROL REQUIREMENTS, MUST BE RETURNED TO THE US FOR "SECOND LEVEL MAINTENANCE.")

4. MA FLALTY IGNORED MR. BUSH'S REMARKS ABOUT FAA ADMINISTRATOR BUTTERFIELD'S INVITATIONS FOR A CAAC DELEGATION TO VISIT FAA FACILITIES IN THE US, THUS INDICATING THAT SUCH A VISIT IS NOT IN THE CARDS IN THE NEAR FUTURE. (COMMENT: THE FIRST OF THESE INVITATIONS WAS DECLINED IN AUGUST 1973 ON GROUNDS THAT CAAC WAS TOO BUSY, AND CAAC DID NOT REPLY TO THE SECOND INVITATION WHICH WAS EXTENDED LAST DECEMBER -- SEE PEKING 1536 AND PREVIOUS.) HOLDRIDGE

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